



For Immediate Release  
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## **Rural Infrastructure Authority awards more than \$9 million in water and sewer grants**

*Twenty-five projects across the state to receive funding*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** -- Building capacity in water, sewer and storm drainage infrastructure continues to be the focus of the S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA), as its Board of Directors recently approved more than \$9 million in grant awards for 25 projects across South Carolina. More than half of the projects funded were in counties designated as Tier III and IV, which are considered to be less developed.

More than 23,000 residential customers and 2,000 businesses will benefit from the improvements, thereby strengthening the efforts to protect public health and the environment as well as support existing and new economic activities.

"This financial assistance is a direct investment in the future of South Carolina's communities," said Executive Director Bonnie Ammons. "By ensuring that residents have safe drinking water and a clean environment, we improve the quality of life and open the door to future opportunities."

Whether assisting local utilities that are facing regulatory compliance requirements or funding projects to upgrade aging infrastructure in need of repair, replacement or greater capacity, the RIA is committed to supporting local efforts to improve water and sewer service to residents and businesses.

Grants are awarded through a competitive process that considers needs for improved public health, environmental protection, community sustainability and economic development. Applicants are required to match the RIA funding request. Applications are selected by the RIA Board based on criteria including: severity of the problem, expected impact and feasibility of the project.

A full list of grant recipients for the first round of fiscal year 2017 is below. To learn more about RIA or how to apply for grant assistance, visit [www.ria.sc.gov](http://www.ria.sc.gov).

Anderson County	Economic Sewer Infrastructure	\$500,000
Clinton, City of	Economic Sewer Infrastructure	\$300,000
Easley Combined Utilities	Sewer System Improvements	\$281,373
Fairfield County	Economic Water Infrastructure	\$500,000

Georgetown County	Economic Water Infrastructure	\$175,000
Georgetown County Water and Sewer District	Sewer System Improvements	\$500,000
Greenwood Metropolitan District	Economic Sewer Infrastructure	\$500,000
Hardeeville, City of	Economic Water and Sewer Infrastructure	\$365,000
Hartsville, City of	Pump Station Upgrade	\$321,575
Hickory Grove, Town of	Water System Improvements	\$138,262
Isle of Palms, City of	Drainage System Upgrade	\$500,000
Kershaw County & Lee County Regional Water Authority	Water Tank Construction	\$500,000
Kingstree, Town of	Sewer System Improvements	\$306,834
Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission	Economic Sewer Infrastructure	\$324,500
Loris, City of	Pump Station Upgrade	\$389,000
McCormick Commission of Public Works	Water System Improvements	\$390,000
Oconee County	Economic Water and Sewer Infrastructure	\$500,000
Pickens, City of	Water Line Upgrade	\$250,000
Ridgeway, Town of	Water Tank Construction	\$500,000
Smoaks, Town of	Water Line Upgrade	\$500,000
Sumter, City of	Well System Upgrade	\$222,480
Union County	Water System Improvements	\$399,685
Union, City of	Sewer System Improvements	\$220,000
Wagener, Town of	Pump Station Upgrade	\$319,125
York, City of	Sewer System Improvements	\$325,387
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25 projects</b>	<b>\$9,228,221</b>

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